

South Central Public Health District 1020 Washington Street North Twin Falls. ID 83301 866-710-9775 www.phd5.idaho.gov



August 8, 2022

Press Release - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Health Officials remind families to get vaccinations now to avoid the back-to-school rush

SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO - As we enter the last few weeks of summer break, South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) encourages parents to take advantage of special vaccine clinics in the area to avoid the back-to-school rush for immunizations.

Children are required to have several immunizations before entering kindergarten, seventh grade, and senior year of high school. Most colleges and universities also require future students to receive immunizations before enrolling. Parents of children at all ages are encouraged to review their children's immunization record to make sure they meet CDC guidelines. Records of immunizations received in Idaho can be found here.

"Immunizations are one of the most powerful tools we have to help prevent the spread of disease," said Tamara Strong, SCPHD School Nurse Coordinator. "Gathering so many kids from different households into one space gives disease a little better chance to spread and thrive. Vaccines help cut back on that risk and keep our kids and schools healthy so education may stay the priority."

Immunizations are free until a child turns 18, and only cost a small fee to administer. SCPHD is offering special back-to-school vaccine clinics in 10 local schools this August, and holds weekly immunization clinics in health district offices around the South Central Idaho. Call your local office to see when they are holding a clinic in your area.

> Twin Falls Office: 737-5966 1020 Washington St. N. Twin Falls, ID 83301

Bellevue Office: 788-4335 Jerome Office: 324-8838 117 East Ash Street Bellevue, ID 83313

951 East Avenue H Jerome, ID 83338

Gooding Office: 934-4477 255 North Canyon Drive Gooding, ID 83330

Heyburn Office: 678-8221 485 22nd Street Heyburn, ID 83336

To learn more about vaccinations visit the SCPHD website: https://www.phd5.idaho.gov/immunizations/